Geo. A. Avery
Rochester Apl. 1843.

Rochester April 18th 1843

Revd A. A. Phelps

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Dear Brother

Your esteemed favor of the 29th ult. has remained unanswered longer than I intended when it came to hand, owing to circumstances which I will not detail but proceed to answer your questions in the order presented & first I would say brother L. W. Moore & Rush were appointed at an executive & sub com in connexion with a large number of gentlemen in different parts of the County without informing at definitely what was expected of us. The whole com have never been together & we have done what we could consistently with our other avocations by way of advice & counsel with brother Willard & have rec'd & forwarded considerable money & much large contributions of clothing provisions funds & valuable interviews with brother M. have been frequent & we have endeavored to make ourselves as familiar with the whole subject as practicable - have carefully advised with him as to the leading measures & general principles & had pretty full & detailed reports from him as to what he had done both written & verbal

We have long known him & consider him a kind & trust worthy man of the Score of integrity, nor have we any fears of bankruptcy as the result of "endorsing for his honesty" in point of economy in personal expenses he stands in an estimation unrivaled We have known him travel hundreds of miles & spend months of time on foot scarcely standing a dollar in money (if he reported truly & we dont doubt it) Still we have found that he would lay out too much work & get more machinery in operation that the means at our disposal would keep in motion but whenever the means have become exhausted he has gone for them successfull. We have none of us seen the location of the School as "A.C. Institute" but have obtained all the information we could & are of opinion that it is doing good. ~~but~~ Much of the money that he collects is only reported to us tho' by him without a voice We do not think any has yet been lost or misapplied. We do not know particularly as to the mode of his election to the presidency of the School but he is known by the name he associated with him there. You will not I trust suppose that the length of the name is a just criterion by which to determine the capacities of plans or management

Regardless of the name
for the School. It is rather perhaps to be considered as
the revenue of Brother Nelson's Research to devise. It is
with reference to this point that we have at a loss
felt most apprehensive & have felt it an duty to hold
him somewhat in check. We are not however prepared
yet to say that he has in any opinion transcended the
bounds of prudence. When James C. Fall was
in Europe some five years since he used considerable
sums for the Cause. Some Eleven (11) hundred dollars
of which he by advice & direction of friends
invested in good bonds & mortgages on property in
this state became a title for the School had
not then been selected. One of the mortgages is now
in the hands of the Com for collection. This sum
(1100 dls) has been much more than sufficient to pay
all the debts of the Nelson School as we understand
it & we have acted on the principle of not spending
more sooner than it was obtained. Brother
W. has sometimes on his individual responsibility borrowed
to meet immediate wants. We have just received a letter
from brother Wilson informing us of his intention to
attend the World's Convention & if he can at the first
obtain a free passage across the Water through the kindness
of friends. If so you will doubtless see him. With reference
to Cousin Mr Champion is out of town & could not if here
give you as full information as I can others. I have been for some

From the Chairman of a Retreat Committee at this place in which visit (some 15 in number) all the Canal Boats in vaboard the city, every Saturday & also once a day at other times having track
A great amount of labor has been performed in this way through good Methodist Committee exist at the other large towns on the Canal. Several hours devoted Ministers Chaplains, given them whole time to pastoral

Rev
Thos A. Phillips
Boston
Mass